

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 467

By Coley

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ashley Marie Pittman Scott of Cordova.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ashley Marie Pittman Scott; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Scott was an exemplary public servant and consummate teacher who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities and especially in the field of education; and

WHEREAS, she served with acumen and alacrity as a teacher, in which position she earned the respect of her peers, superiors, and students alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Scott was born on November 4, 1978, and raised in Bossier City, Louisiana, where she graduated from Parkway High School; and

WHEREAS, after receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, in 2000, Ms. Scott completed graduate courses for a teaching certificate in Tennessee; her career at Bolton High School began in January 2003; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Scott taught English and creative writing for nearly four years at Bolton High School in Shelby County, and also served as a cheerleading sponsor there, before her untimely death at the tender age of twenty-eight; a dedicated professional, Ms. Scott was a friend and mentor to her students, always listening to their problems and cheering them up with her signature warm smile and funny stories; and

WHEREAS, she taught her students with respect and fairness, using humor, positive reinforcement, and creativity to convey her expectations for them, as evidenced by her official Classroom Rules, which she labeled Rules of the Roost; those rules included: Bow to the Bell, R.E.S.P.E.C.T (find out what it means to me), Stay in your bubble and stay parked, Rub A Dub – Don't bring your grub, and Have what you need. Need what you have; and

WHEREAS, if Ms. Scott's students didn't follow the rules they were met with these consequences: Number one, Evil Eye; Number two, Tattle Tale; and Number three, Sent up the River; her rewards included Verbal Praise, Positive Notes Sent Home, and Warm Fuzzy Feelings; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Scott was an extremely popular teacher who was involved in many student organizations; Bolton High School Principal David Stephens has said that her students could truly relate to her; and

WHEREAS, her students fondly recall their teacher's happy disposition, wonderful personality, and willingness to help everyone out; there are many things they won't ever forget about her, such as when she made her own Napoleon Dynamite shirts and wore at least one every week, nor will they forget that, always evincing great care for her students, Ms. Scott ended every Friday class with a cheerful, "Be good, Be careful, Behave!"; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her parents, Jimmy and Young Mi Pittman and Donna and Randy Lowry; her sister and family, Kecia, Stephen, Nathan and Vivian Vekovius; and many other dear family members and friends; and

WHEREAS, she will be sorely missed by her family at Bolton High School, as well; students held a candlelight vigil around the school flag pole the Monday following her death to honor their beloved teacher's memory; they also put together a tribute video in her honor and organized a memorial service; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Scott leaves behind a legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional educator, public servant, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ashley Marie Pittman Scott, reflecting fondly upon her exceptional service to the students of Bolton High School and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. Scott.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we wish to applaud Bolton High School's efforts to remember Ashley Scott's enduring legacy with a 5k run in her honor on October 13, 2007, to aid victims of domestic violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.